IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 1 (currently amended): The method of measuring the perpendicular orientation angle of a rotational axis to a reference line using:

    A. at least one reference string aligned to said reference line, and

    B. a collimated light source that is rotated about said rotational axis where a collimated light beam from said collimated light source is projected toward said reference string, and

    C. the minimum distance between said collimated light beam and said reference string is measured at two or more locations, and

    D. the distance between said locations is known,

whereby said perpendicular orientation angle of said rotational axis to said reference line is ~~calculated~~ determined.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1 where said rotational axis is attached to a portable mounting base and said rotational axis rotates relative to said portable mounting base.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1 where the position of said collimated light beam relative to said reference string is determined by using the electronic current output of two photocells separated apart by a distance that is smaller than said reference string diameter when said collimated light beam contacts said reference string.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1 where the position of said collimated light beam relative to said reference string is determined by using the electronic output of a CCD camera when said collimated light beam contacts said reference string.

Claim 5 (original): The method as set forth in claim 1 where at least one end of said reference string is located with a fixed mounting plate with a groove.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1 where

    a. three said locations are chosen on said reference line, and

    b. the distances between said three locations are measured, and

c. the distances between said three locations and said rotational axis are measured, whereby the non-perpendicular projection angle of said collimated light beam relative to said rotational axis is calculated.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 2 where said collimated light source is movable substantially perpendicular to said reference line and said movement is measured relative to said portable mounting base.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 2 where a level indicator is attached to said portable mounting base.

Claim 9 (original): The method as set forth in claim 7 where a scale is used to measure said movement.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 6 where said rotational axis is attached to a portable mounting base and said rotational axis rotates relative to said portable mounting base.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 10 where said collimated light source is movable substantially perpendicular to said reference line and said movement is measured relative to said portable mounting base.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 10 where a level indicator is attached to said portable mounting base.

Claim 13 (original): The method as set forth in claim 11 where a scale is used to measure said movement.